

Committee on the Budget • Majority Caucus U.S. House of Representatives Jim Nussle, Chairman

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Summarizing budgetary issues in legislation scheduled for the House floor

6 July 2004

Week of 6 July 2004

## SUSPENSION CALENDAR

1) Eisenhower Exchange Fellowship Program Trust Fund Enhancement Act of 2003 (H.R. 2121).



The Eisenhower Exchange Fellowship Program is an international leadership exchange program. The program is designed to cultivate leadership throughout the world by emphasizing exposure by leading professionals to other nations' political institutions, private sector commerce, educational opportunities, and cultural and societal traditions. The trust fund was created in 1992 with an appropriation of \$5 million. In 1995, an additional payment of \$2.5 million was made to the fund. This bill increases the authorization for fiscal year 2004 to allow for an additional appropriation of \$12.5 million. Because these funds are subject to appropriation, the bill neither increases direct spending – spending not subject to appropriations nor reduces revenue.

- 2) Recognizing the Marshall Islands (H.Con.Res. 410). This measure recognizes the 25th anniversary of the adoption of the Constitution of the Marshall Islands, and also recognizes the islands as a staunch ally of the United States, committed to principles of democracy and freedom for the Pacific and the world. The resolution has no budget implications.
- 3) Urging the Medal of Freedom for Harry W. Colmery (H.Con.Res. 257). This resolution expresses the sense of Congress that the President should posthumously award the Presidential Medal of Freedom to Harry W. Colmery. The resolution has no budget implications.
- 4) To Redesignate the Facilities Located at 7715 and 7748 S. Cottage Grove Avenue in Chicago. Illinois. as the "James E. Worsham Post Office" and the "James E. Worsham Carrier Annex Building" (H.R. 3340).



This bill neither increases direct spending nor reduces revenue.

5) To Designate the Facility Located at 7450 Natural Bridge Road in St. Louis, Missouri, as the "Vitilas 'Veto' Reid Post Office Building" (H.R. 4327).



This bill neither increases direct spending nor reduces revenue.

6) To Designate the Facility Located at 73 South Euclid Avenue in Montauk, New York, as the "Perry B. Duryea, Jr. Post Office" (H.R. 4427).



This bill neither increases direct spending nor reduces revenue.

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PLEASE NOTE: This document addresses budgetary issues only. It should not be taken to address support or opposition on any other grounds. A green flag indicates no serious budgetary or budget compliance concerns. A yellow flag indicates moderate or potential problems. A red flag indicates serious problems. Also note: Floor schedules and legislative details are subject to change after publication.

This document was prepared by the majority staff of the Committee on the Budget, U.S. House of Representatives. It has not been approved by the full committee and therefore may not reflect the views of all the committee's members.

## 7) To Resolve the Boundary Conflicts in Barry and Stone Counties in the State of Missouri (S. 1167).



This bill creates a process for the Forest Service and the U.S. Army to resolve boundary disputes with private landowners around the Mark Twain National Forest. Property owners having disputes with these agencies are given 15 years to bring notice of their claims. After evaluating a valid claim, the agency involved could either convey the disputed property to the private claimant, or retain Federal ownership and compensate the claimant for the value of the land. The bill does not increase direct spending, but may increase discretionary spending by \$500,000 annually, assuming appropriations are made available.

- 8) High-Performance Computing Revitalization Act of 2004 (H.R. 4218). This measure amends existing guidelines for high-performance computing research and development. Six agencies received appropriations for high-performance computing research and development in fiscal year 2004: the National Science Foundation, the Department of Energy, National Institutes of Health, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Department of Commerce, and the Environmental Protection Agency. This bill modernizes the guidelines, repeals outdated authorizations, and emphasizes issues such as providing researchers sustained access to the most advanced computing systems. The bill neither increases direct spending nor reduces revenue.
- 9) Department of Energy High-End Computing Revitalization Act of 2004 (H.R. 4516). The bill directs the Department of Energy conduct research and development on ways to advance the capabilities of high-end computing systems. It also directs the department to establish and operate leadership-class facilities. This bill neither increases direct spending nor reduces revenue.
- 10) To Reauthorize the Steel and Aluminum Energy Conservation and Technology Competitiveness Act of 1988 (H.R. 3890).



This bill reauthorizes the Steel and Aluminum Energy Conservation and Technology Competitiveness Act of 1988. It authorizes appropriations for research and development into enhancing energy efficiency in steel and aluminum production. It also expands research into the production of bar steel and technologies that reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This bill neither increases direct spending nor reduces revenue.

11) National Windstorm Impact Reduction Act of 2004 (H.R. 3980). This bill establishes an Interagency Working Group consisting of representatives from the National Science Foundation, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the National Institute of Standards and Technology, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and other Federal agencies as appropriate. The working group is directed to study ways to ameliorate and assess the impact of windstorms, and to improve the understanding of windstorms. This bill neither increases direct spending nor reduces revenue.

12) Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research Amendments Act of 2003 (H.R. 1856). This bill reauthorizes the Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research and Control Act of 1998 for the next 5 years. It extends the Federal interagency task force established to assess the problems of algal blooms and hypoxia, which are considered a possible threat to public health and which can lead to damaging marine conditions. The bill neither increases direct spending nor reduces revenue.

## **LEGISLATION CONSIDERED UNDER A RULE**

Department of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, Bill:

and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2005 (H.R. 4754).



Committee: **Appropriations** 

Summary: The major agencies and activities funded by this bill include the Justice Department, the

Commerce Department and Related Agencies, the Judiciary, the State Department, and

International Broadcasting.

(continued on next page)

**Budget Week** Page2 The Justice Department includes: United States Attorneys who represent the Federal Government in judicial proceedings; and the United States Marshals Service, which provides security for the federal judiciary. The measure also provides funding for law-enforcement related agencies such as the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the Federal Prison System and the Office of Justice Programs.

Activities in the Commerce Department include promoting the development of business and foreign trade; improving technological competitiveness; fostering economic development; and providing statistical information on the U.S. economy and population. These activities are conducted through agencies such as the Economic Development Administration, the Bureau of the Census, the International Trade Administration and the Bureau of Industry and Security.

The Judiciary's budget provides funding for the Supreme Court and the lower Federal courts, and for related judicial services. The budget includes the salaries, benefits, and operating expenses of circuit and district judges, retired justices and judges, the U.S. Court of Federal Claims, and bankruptcy and magistrate judges.

The State Department currently supports the activities of more than 50 U.S. agencies and organizations operating at 260 posts in 180 countries. Major components include funding for the Administration of Foreign Affairs, Diplomatic and Consular Programs, Embassies and Embassy Security, and Educational and Cultural Exchanges.

Cost:

According to the estimate by the Congressional Budget Office, the cost of the measure is at the level of the suballocation received by the Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, and State. The subcommittee received \$39.815 billion in budget authority for programs, projects and agencies within its jurisdiction. This represents an increase of \$2.2 billion over fiscal year 2004 levels, and a \$200-million increase over the President's request.

**Budget Act:** 

Because the measure is at the suballocation level provided to the subcommittee, it will not violate section 302(f) of the Congressional Budget Act, which prohibits a subcommittee from breaching its suballocation.

The bill is not expected to include any advance appropriations or budget authority designated as an emergency requirement.

(Please see forthcoming Appropriations Update.)

Bill: Legislative Branch Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2005 (H.R. 4755).

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Committee: Ap

Appropriations

**Summary:** 

The Legislative Branch Appropriations measure provides funding for various Congressional functions and support agencies. As reported – and as it will be considered on the floor – the act excludes funding for the Senate. Those amounts will be included as part of a conference report. The bill provides funding for staff legislative branch agencies, and the Architect of the Capitol. (The bill provides no funding for major new construction projects, directing that resources be focused on current projects, especially the Capitol Visitors Center.) It provides funding for the U.S. Capitol Police, the Congressional Budget Office, the Library of Congress, the Government Printing Office, and the General Accounting Office. It also includes funds for a fitness facility for House staff.

Cost:

The report from the Appropriations Committee provided the Legislative subcommittee a suballocation of \$2.752 billion for Congressional operations (excluding the Senate). The measure is expected to be below that level but no official estimate has been finalized.

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Budget Week Page3

**Budget Act:** Because the measure is expected to be below the suballocation provided to the

subcommittee, it will not violate section 302(f) of the Congressional Budget Act, which prohibits a subcommittee from breaching its suballocation. The bill is not expected to include any advance appropriations or emergency-designated budget authority.

(Please see forthcoming Appropriations Update.)

Manufacturing Technology Competitiveness Act of 2003 (H.R. 3598). Bill:

Committee: Science

Summary: This bill establishes an Interagency Committee to plan and coordinate Federal efforts in

> manufacturing research and development, along with an Advisory Committee to provide advice and information to the committee from the private manufacturing research and development area. It requires Federal agencies that are the members of this committee to coordinate their manufacturing grant activities with several new research grants program established by the bill under the National Institute of Standards and Technology [NIST].

Cost: The bill authorizes a \$618 million in fiscal year 2005, and \$2.6 billion over the 2005-09

period, subject to appropriations. Because this includes an authorization of such sums as may be necessary for construction and maintenance of NIST research facilities, the overall level is based, in part, on historical appropriation funding. This bill neither

increases direct spending nor reduces revenue.

**Budget Act:** Because the bill does not increase direct spending, it does not breach the allocation of

> budget authority provided by the budget resolution to the Committee on Science. Hence it will not violate section 302(f) of the Congressional Budget Act, nor will it violate any other

point of order under that act.

Bill: Stock Option Accounting Reform Act (H.R. 3574).

Committee: **Financial Services** 

Summary: This bill requires publicly traded companies to include the value of a portion of stock

> options as an expense in the firm's annual financial reports. This is known as "expensing stock options." The bill's requirement applies to the stock options granted to a company's chief executive officer and the four highest-paid executive officers. The bill excludes small companies from the requirements. The Securities and Exchange Commission is required to promulgate regulations for expensing stock options, and the Departments of Commerce

and Labor are directed to study the economic impact of this practice.

Cost: This bill neither increases direct spending nor reduces revenue.

**Budget Act:** The bill does not violate any provisions of the Congressional Budget Act.

Prepared by ...... The Committee on the Budget

**Budget Week** Page 4